

July 12, 2001

(FY) 2002 Agriculture Appropriations legislation (H.R. 2330) that would provide \$74.6 billion in funds for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Food and Drug Administration, and other related agencies. I believe we must support our nation's agriculture programs and am very pleased that this year's bill including sufficient federal funding for nutrition research programs.

I am particularly pleased that this legislation includes \$75 million in additional federal funding for the Agriculture Research Service (ARS), a division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The ARS conducts and funds a variety of research projects, including nutrition research. The ARS provides funding for six human nutrition research centers, including the Children's Nutrition Research Center (CNRC) at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. The CNRC is the only human nutrition research center which focuses primarily on pediatric nutrition and helps to make recommendations about childhood diets.

As the representatives for the CNRC, I applaud the innovative pediatric nutrition research which the CNRC conducts each year. I am also pleased that this bill includes an additional \$500,000 for the CNRC so they can expand their pediatric nutrition research next year. I believe that this investment will not only save lives but also reduce health care costs as we learn more about what is the best, most nutritional food for our children to eat. This additional funding will fund valuable research which will help families to provide nutritional food for their children so that these children will live longer, healthier lives.

There are many examples of CNRC's research which will have a direct impact on our lives. For instance, CNRC researchers are currently examining the metabolic, hormonal and dietary factors that affect the body's absorption and utilization of essential mineral nutrients such as calcium and zinc. Lack of adequate calcium intake in childhood can predispose children, especially females to fractures and osteoporosis. By understanding how our bodies process calcium and other nutrients, the CNRC will be able to make important recommendations on how to help children to prevent osteoporosis. Another CNRC study is working to identify the factors that influence children's eating habits and how best to help children and families to adopt healthier habits to avoid the long-term health problems linked to poor nutrition, such as obesity, diabetes, stroke, and osteoporosis. The CNRC is also doing research on the nutrition of mothers and their infants during pregnancy and lactation. These studies will examine the optimal dietary calorie, protein, and mineral requirements for maternal health during pregnancy and lactation. With this study, mothers and their infants will learn more about the necessary nutrients they need to maintain optimal health during pregnancy and lactation.

I will continue to work with the House Appropriations Committee to ensure that the CNRC gets sufficient federal funding to conduct pediatric nutritional research. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation which provides necessary funding for agriculture and nutrition research programs.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMENDING BEN AFFLECK

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2001

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a very special person, Ben Affleck, who came to town yesterday to host a fund-raiser on behalf of the A-T Children's Project. A-T (Ataxia-Telangiectasia) is a genetic disease that attacks children. How Ben became involved is noteworthy.

Ben met Joe Kindregan, then 10, three years ago while Ben was filming a segment of his hit film, *Forces of Nature*, at Dulles Airport. Joe had just started using his power wheelchair and was given the opportunity to meet Ben on the set during filming. Ben and Joe immediately hit it off and their friendship has grown since then. Ben and Joe meet occasionally and keep in touch by e-mail. Recently, Ben invited Joe and his family to the premiere of his new movie, *Pearl Harbor*, in Hawaii. Over the last few years, Ben has been able to witness first-hand the toll A-T has taken on Joe, and Joe's increasing dependence on his family, just to get through the day. Ben's devotion to Joe—and the Kindregan family's work with the A-T Children's Project and families—has made a tremendous difference in their lives and has given them additional hope that, with the help of people like Ben, a cure is possible.

Ben is a gifted young actor, popular, and hitting all the right high spots that a demanding career in Hollywood requires. He has gone beyond acting and has journeyed into the entrepreneurial world of producing shows as well. He has many developing interests in his life; takes the time to stay close to his mother; and seems to truly strive to make a real difference in this world.

Ben has taken the time to learn about the disease and the various research projects that are focusing on finding a cure. He appeared before the Senate yesterday as a compassionate and informed witness to talk about this dreadful disease, and the remarkable progress this small foundation has made in so short a period of time in its search for a cure. He requested that Congress provide increased funding to NIH for A-T research. He also joined many Members of Congress and friends last night to do push-ups and shoot hoops at an event to raise money and awareness about A-T.

I believe that Ben Affleck is an exceptional person. In his work with A-T, he has demonstrated a deep compassion and interest in his fellow man, which is particularly notable when coming from someone in the midst of achieving enormous fame and fortune. Ben has been a true hero to the A-T kids, and I extend my personal thanks to him.

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IN HONOR OF MR. CARROLL O'CONNOR

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Carroll O'Connor, a truly remarkable man, who has influenced the lives of many people throughout his acting career, most notably known for his character of Archie Bunker in "All in the Family".

Mr. O'Connor was very enthusiastic about "All in the Family" which began in 1971 and lasted eight seasons. Mr. O'Connor portrayed a cranky, ignorant, and even caustic man whose wholesomeness and honesty won over the sympathy of audiences. He stated about the show, "Right from the start I loved the idea of this show. It was frank and refreshing, a lot more true to life than anything on the air. Everybody was talking about creating shows that were relevant, but nobody wanted to touch the real thing."

As the television show grew, Mr. O'Connor's popularity soared to unbelievable heights. He was not just the character that he was known for, but he was a lovable man who truly cared for all. The show's other cast members spoke of the cast as a family. After the death of his son he spent a significant amount of his time working against drug abuse. Mr. O'Connor was dedicated to the cause and traveled the country promoting laws in the state legislatures that would allow victims of drug abuse to sue drug dealers for monetary damages.

Let us honor the memory of Carroll O'Connor for his remarkable contributions to the people through his life of service, most notably playing the role of "Archie Bunker."

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2330) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Gilchrest/Oliver amendment. The amendment would strike the language that was inserted in the bill to ensure that the Kyoto Protocol is not implemented prior to its ratification in the Senate.

This language has been added over the past several years ago to numerous appropriations bills. As I understand it, the reason what that some were concerned that President Clinton was moving too fast to address global warming.